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[JORDAN-EGYPT: The Arab mediating committee yesterday was moving to keep the lid on in Amman, as demonstrations marking Nasir's death were held in Israeli-occupied Jordan.

Amman remains a divided city, with the fedayeen still in control of substantial areas. According to press accounts, Wahdat refugee camp is thick with guerrillas carrying automatic weapons and even manning positions. Cars of the five-nation peacekeeping mission, flying green flags, are conspicuous throughout the city. The US ambassador believes that control of Amman now depends upon the five-nation force, whose ability to dislodge the dug-in fedayeen is doubtful. At the same time, the government's freedom to maneuver is severely limited by the presence of the Arab force, because it would be a major political problem for the King to flout it. The ambassador suspects that Husayn's gains have hardly been worth two weeks of bitter fighting, substantial damage to the city, and widespread deaths and suffering of the people.

Schedule for Withdrawals

The follow-up committee chaired by Tunisian Premier Ladgham has announced that both the army and the commandos are to pull out of Amman within 24 hours, beginning at 0800 Amman time today (0200 EDT). The army is to take up temporary positions five kilometers outside the city limits; the fedayeen are to return to their homes or join their commands. After this first phase, the army is to return to its normal bases and the fedayeen are to be stationed in locations "suiting fedayeen action" outside Amman--presumably near the frontier. The curfew has been partially lifted, and Ladgham hopes to end it entirely within three days.]

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Despite the committee's optimism, neither side seems disposed to withdraw until the other has already left. In a newspaper interview yesterday, Yasir Arafat said categorically that the army is to pull out first and will be followed by the commandos; he also said that the fedayeen militia, which he put at 30,000 men, would remain in Amman in their former positions. The commandos would "definitely" remain in Irbid, he added, because it is the nearest town to the front lines. It seems unlikely, however, that the army would allow the King to grant such concessions to the fedayeen, even were the King inclined to do so. Several of the army headquarters staff have told US military personnel in Amman that the army will not leave the city until all fedayeen--including the fedayeen civil militia--have been identified and disarmed.

Fighting seems to have died off outside of the capital. Jordanian officers have said that the Iraqis have concentrated four full brigades and part of a fifth around Mafraq, and have withdrawn their 14th Infantry Brigade from west of Irbid. The Jordanians also claim that the Iraqis control the Ramtha road and have cut the army off from one of its largest ammunition dumps near Ramtha.

Last Hostages Released

The last six hijack hostages were turned over to Red Cross representatives yesterday, and are scheduled to leave Amman this morning. Embassy officials who have talked with them report that they are all well and had been held near Irbid. According to the Egyptians, who were instrumental in arranging the release, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine freed the hostages unconditionally but expects that the fedayeen being held in Europe will be released. The front also expects the UK to put pressure on Israel for the release of 14 prisoners held there.]

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~~SECRET~~**C** Mourning for Nasir

Widespread demonstrations of grief over the loss of Nasir took place yesterday on the Israeli-occupied West Bank of Jordan and the Gaza strip. Israeli security forces scuffled with demonstrators in Jerusalem; in the Gaza Strip, one person was wounded when Israeli soldiers attempted to disperse unruly mourners.

Cairo, meanwhile, was generally quiet yesterday in spite of the large emotional crowds that gathered outside the Qubbah Palace where Nasir lies in state. Extra police and small groups of military were stationed at key points throughout the city to guard against any unseemly incidents, particularly in view of the large numbers of visiting dignitaries who have come for the funeral on Thursday. Premier Kosygin was one of the first to arrive yesterday at the head of a delegation which included First Deputy Defense Minister Zakharov and Deputy Foreign Minister Vinogradov, and was met at the airport by War Minister Muhammad Fawzi. [redacted]

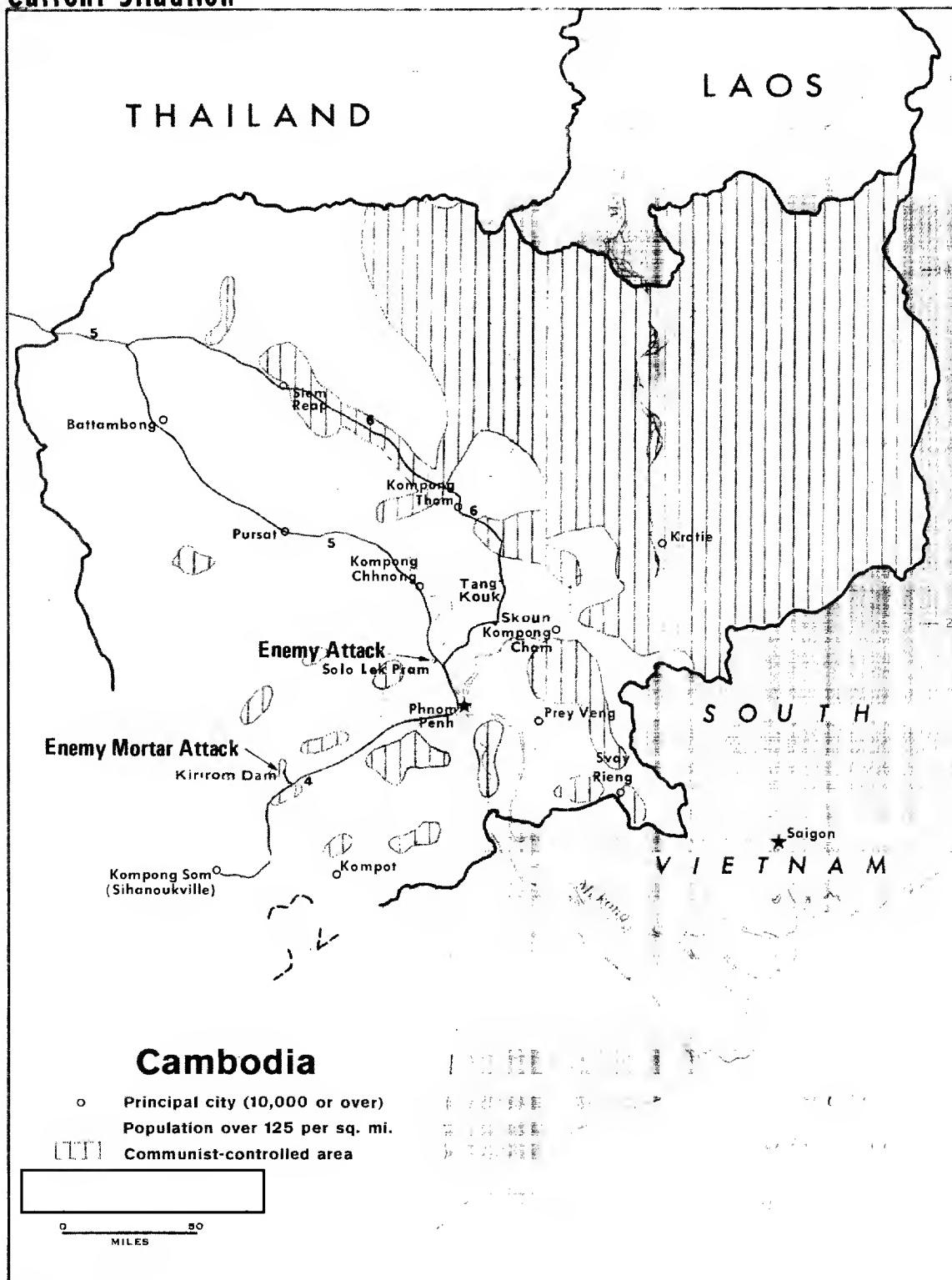
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Current Situation



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CAMBODIA: The government apparently is considering terminating the operation to reach Kompong Thom via Route 6. The commander of the task force has told the press that because Kompong Thom can be reached by boat, his troops now can concentrate on "fighting the enemy." In three weeks the column, which has grown from eight to 20 battalions, was only able to reach Tang Kouk village, 15 miles north of its starting point at Skoun, and 35 miles short of Kompong Thom city.

Traffic on Route 4, the main roadway between Phnom Penh and the port of Kompong Som, has been subjected to so much enemy harassment recently that the Cambodian Army (FANK) officer responsible for that artery's security has recommended that it be closed every evening. The officer also notes that Communist forces are able to cross Route 4 frequently on logistic missions and that they have established a number of base areas in the vicinity.

Government positions near the Kirirom dam just north of Route 4 were hit by mortar and rocket fire on 28 September as an enemy force moved into fortifications only about 400 meters away.

Military action elsewhere in Cambodia remained light with only widely scattered enemy harassing attacks reported. A government position at Sala Lek Pram, on Route 5 south of Kompong Chhnang, was attacked by an enemy force of unknown size early on 29 September. Telephone lines were cut and no communications were possible with the beleaguered FANK unit, which is not equipped with radios.

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USSR - NORTH VIETNAM: The Soviet commercial airline Aeroflot will inaugurate scheduled weekly air service to Hanoi on 15 October, according to a recent Soviet announcement.

Unscheduled weekly flights to Hanoi via Tashkent, Karachi, and Calcutta are already being made, and the new service, with added stops at Vientiane and Rangoon to pick up and discharge passengers, will formalize this existing service. Landing rights for the two new stops were included in civil air agreements signed with Laos and Burma in March and April, respectively. Heretofore, the only flights between Vientiane and Hanoi have been those operated weekly by the International Control Commission.

Moscow began laying the groundwork for the flights as early as December 1968 in order to gain an alternate access route to Hanoi free of harassment by the Chinese of aircraft and personnel transiting China. The first flights began in March 1969 using a Soviet IL-18 transport.

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NORTH KOREA: Policy differences may be behind Pyongyang's postponement of its Fifth Party Congress until mid-November.

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An alleged debate on whether to de-emphasize the use of violence to achieve Korean unification on Communist terms reportedly has not been resolved. Other problems probably center on economic matters. The congress was originally supposed to have been held in 1967, but was postponed when the regime's seven-year economic development plan had to be extended to 1970. Recent shifts in the economic hierarchy suggest that all problems connected with finishing off the current plan and drafting a new five-year plan have not been solved. [redacted]

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LATIN AMERICA: The Conference of the Pacific that opened on 27 September is being used as a forum for criticism of the US by its Chilean organizers.

Seventy academicians from many countries, including Japan, Mexico, Australia, Peru, and Canada, are meeting in Vina del Mar to discuss possibilities for economic cooperation. In fact, however, the purpose of the conference, according to the University of Chile professor who organized it, is to lay the groundwork for relationships in the Pacific area which would supplant US influence there. The opening speech of Foreign Minister Gabriel Valdes, the conference's patron, was implicitly anti-US.

The closing speech by Felipe Herrera, the controversial Chilean president of the Interamerican Development Bank, may be even more critical of the US. He has already shown his pro-Allende bias by congratulating him as president-elect before the electoral process has been completed. Herrera is a leading candidate for a top job in the cabinet Allende plans to name soon.

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URUGUAY: The Tupamaros have demanded that their political manifesto be published before they release Claude Fly, the US agricultural expert kidnapped on 7 August.

Despite the government's refusal last week to allow publication of the manifesto, Uruguayan news media have offered to publish it if Fly and a Brazilian hostage are released. [redacted]

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Uruguayan newsmen now believe that negotiations for the release of Fly will be completed "successfully or unsuccessfully" by the end of this week.

The Tupamaros continued their terrorist campaign yesterday by bombing a restaurant and bowling alley in a suburb of Montevideo where many Americans live. One terrorist was killed in the attacks, which left three bystanders injured. [redacted]

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CUBA: By avoiding major issues in his speech Monday, Fidel Castro did little to dispel the uncertainty that has characterized his leadership since the end of the sugar harvest:

He repeated his theme of 26 July that Cuba's youth, women, and labor organizations have been neglected during the past two years, and promised that they would be strengthened. He assumed full responsibility for this neglect, and, in an implicit criticism of his own decision to concentrate on harvesting 10 million tons of sugar in 1970, blamed it on "a certain idealism."

Castro again referred to a vague process by which the people, especially through the mass organizations, would exert greater control over problems of production and services, but he failed to describe the specifics of how this control would be achieved. He made it clear, however, that repressive measures are being developed for use against workers guilty of "vagrancy, parasitism, and absenteeism." [redacted]

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USSR-BERLIN: An unusual Soviet effort to impose limited restrictions on Allied air traffic has been timed to coincide with the four-power ambassadorial meeting on Berlin today. Yesterday the Soviets informed the Western Allies that they were closing an area west of the city to traffic up to about 10,000 feet for a two-hour period early this morning. Allied traffic to Berlin flies near or below this altitude, and these restrictions would in effect close the northern and central air corridors. Normally, however, there are no Allied flights during the closure period set by the Soviets. The Soviets also attempted to restrict air traffic to Berlin in 1962 and 1965, but did not react when Allied military flights deliberately violated them. The current restrictions appear to be another test of Western firmness on the issue of Allied access to Berlin.

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EAST GERMANY: The executive board of UNESCO yesterday rejected the latest East German bid for membership by a margin of only four votes. A seat in the UN or its specialized agencies has long been a goal of the Pankow regime. Moreover, since early this year Pankow's efforts, supported by Moscow and most governments of Eastern Europe, have been intensified. With the exception of UNESCO, so far the votes opposed to East German admission to international organizations have been substantial.

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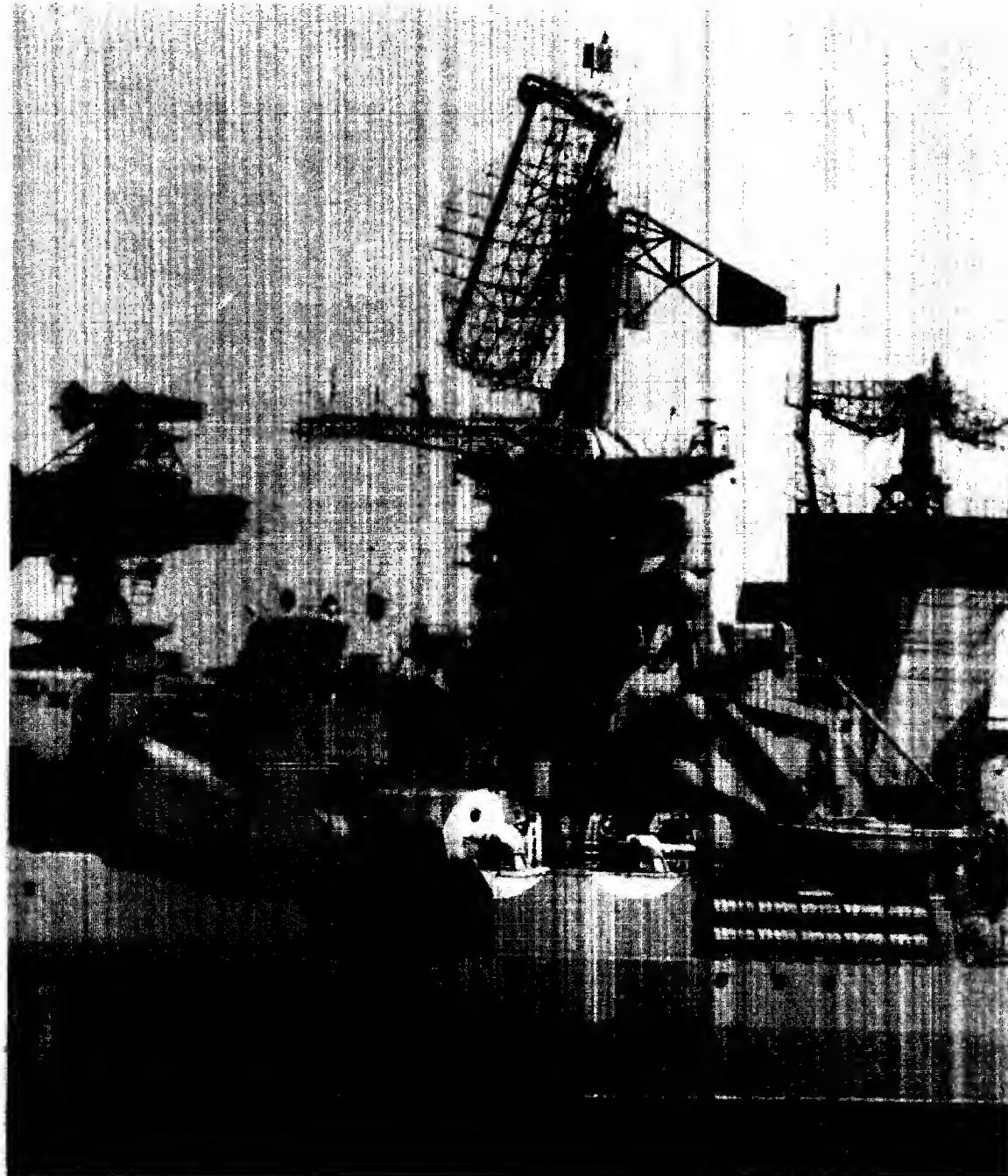
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● New Naval 100-mm Guns



Kresta II-Class Guided Missile Cruiser

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USSR: A new Kresta II - class missile cruiser sighted recently in the Mediterranean has guns that may use rocket-assisted projectiles or other new ammunition. The guns are about 100 mm. in diameter and have a short barrel. They probably have a high rate of fire and are intended for close-in combat. Other ships of the Soviet fleet, including the converted Kanin-class missile destroyers and possibly the Nanuchka-class missile patrol boats, may also be equipped with these guns.

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LIBYA: Efforts by the six major oil companies to avoid accepting a settlement based on precedents set by Occidental Oil Company and three of the four members of the Oasis Group apparently have failed. Two of the companies--Texaco and Standard Oil of California--have agreed to Libyan demands for increased prices and retroactive payments, thus increasing pressure on the remaining companies to reach settlements with the government. Bunker Hunt, an independent company in partnership with British Petroleum, reportedly also has settled on Libyan terms. More than 50 percent of the oil produced in Libya now is covered by new agreements.

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IAEA: The general conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has approved an Italian proposal to amend the IAEA statute to give Italy and West Germany permanent seats on the board of governors, the IAEA's executive entity. The amendment will now be submitted to member countries, two thirds of whom must ratify before it enters into effect. Although the general conference passed the amendment handily, it fell 15 votes short of two thirds of all members. Ratification will in part depend on decisions in Rome and Bonn, both members of EURATOM, to ratify the Nonproliferation Treaty. [redacted]

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NICARAGUA: The latest student protest against the Somoza regime was effectively defused yesterday by agreement to establish an ad-hoc committee to investigate alleged mistreatment of prisoners. President Somoza, refusing to be stampeded into precipitous use of force, worked out the compromise agreement in a meeting with top church and university officials. Although a confrontation was avoided this time, students and liberal priests are sufficiently impressed with the success of their joint effort to welcome any other opportunity to tilt against the government. [redacted]

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VENEZUELA: The country's leading petroleum producer has opened the world's largest desulfurization facility, marking another step forward in maintaining Venezuela's share of the US fuel oil market. Representing a \$125-million investment by a subsidiary of Standard Oil of New Jersey, the plant can turn out 100,000 barrels per day of oil with no more than one percent sulfur. Its output and that of a smaller Shell Oil desulfurization facility opened in 1969 are designed to meet air pollution restrictions enacted in recent years by major cities on the US Eastern Seaboard, the chief market for Venezuelan fuel oil. Additional facilities will have to be constructed, however, because these two plants can process only about one sixth of Venezuela's US-bound fuel oil. [redacted]

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